

Agenda

2021 Puyallup Multiparameter Improvement Project Partner Meeting

March 15, 2021

Attendees:

Marcoe, Sheila (ECY) <smar461@ECY.WA.GOV>; Reinlasoder, Rick <Rick.Reinlasoder@kingcounty.gov>;
Isensee, Michael (AGR) <MIsensee@agr.wa.gov>; Gleason, Molly (ECY) <mgle461@ECY.WA.GOV>;
carrie.king@kingcd.org; Jay.Mirro@kingcd.org; Matt.Maria@kingcd.org; Megan.Weldon@kingcd.org;
Robinson, Stephanie <strobenson@kingcounty.gov>; Marty Jacobson (ECY) (MAJA461@ECY.WA.GOV);
Neculae, Cleo (ECY) <CNEC461@ECY.WA.GOV>; Gray, Donovan (ECY) <DOGR461@ECY.WA.GOV>;
jeanne.Dorn@kingcounty.gov; Chapman, Cameron <Cameron.Chapman@kingcounty.gov>;
Kollin.Higgins@kingcounty.gov; Sullivan, Lawrence (ECY) <Lsul461@ECY.WA.GOV>; Eric Palmer
<epalmer@ci.enumclaw.wa.us>; liz.clark@kingcd.org; Nancy Rapin <NRapin@muckleshoot.nsn.us>;
meagan.jackson@kingcounty.gov; Whitesell, Leanne (ECY) leaw461@ECY.WA.GOV, Darren Chromey
<dchromey@ci.enumclaw.wa.us>

Session 1 (9am – 12pm):

9:00am – 9:15am Round Table Introductions (name, agency, and favorite tree)

9:15am – 12:00pm Formal and Informal Presentations (~5-10 min each plus details/discussion afterwards)

Conveyances and Habitat – What makes the Enumclaw plateau unique?

- o Enumclaw Plateau Hydrodynamics 101 Michael Isensee (WSDA)

Presentation will be available on Puyallup Partnership webpage

- o Enumclaw Aquatic Habitats 101 Kollin Higgins (King County)

Presentation will be available on Puyallup Partnership webpage

Water Quality Data / Monitoring Results – What are we seeing? What do the Trends mean?

- o Water Quality 101 Donovan Gray (ECY)

Presentation will be available on Puyallup Partnership webpage

- o Ecology Efforts / Results – Molly Gleason

Presentation will be available on Puyallup Partnership webpage.

o King County Efforts / Results – Cameron Chapman

- King County (KC) has a legal requirement to look in the stormwater drainage systems in unincorporated KC. *E. coli* samples are collected at publically accessible locations at the most downstream locations on the main water courses and analyzed using the coliscan easygel method. qPCR is sometimes utilized in the largest water courses to analyze targeted genetic markers. qPCR samples are analyzed by King County Environmental Lab.
- Jeanne and Cameron have been working to sample the drainages around the plateau and have identified one likely OSS leak but are concerned about the fecal coliform levels they have detected along the agricultural ditches and wonder how best to inform partners -> Ecology is asking partners to submit ERTS for observations of pollution.
- Over the last several years, only 6 failing septic systems have been identified, yet there seems to be no noticeable change in bacteria levels in Boise Creek.

o City of Enumclaw Efforts / Results - Eric Palmer

- The City is still working to troubleshoot fecal coliform signals coming from stormwater Lateral A, since this stormwater lateral is a major source of surface water to the main stormwater flume in Drainage District 6 which flows to Boise Creek.
- The City conducts monthly sampling of fecal coliform along the stormwater laterals.
- The City's sampling results indicate that the City's stormwater flume is the main bacteria source to Boise Creek. The downstream drainage from the Waste Water Treatment Plant to Boise Creek (downstream of the stormwater flume) has had intermittent high levels of bacteria, but these high levels were not consistent compared to the stormwater flume bacteria levels. Ecology's results align with the City's findings.
- Staff have walked along the flume and saw pet waste being thrown over the fence. A follow-up letter was sent to residences about disposing of dog waste in the stormwater flume.
- Birds that are attracted to stormwater ponds are a likely source of bacteria. The City has been monitoring the bacteria levels downstream of the stormwater pond near Watson St and has sent flyers to residents in the neighborhood encouraging citizens to not feed birds at the ponds.
- The City checked on/is checking on on-site septic (OSS) systems in the area. Several connections were fixed last year, including a property on Blake Street.

o Muckleshoot Efforts / Results – Nancy Rapin

Nancy has been monitoring in the Lower White River and Pussyfoot Creek and has developed a QA plan for her sampling efforts. She is still seeing high levels of fecal coliforms in the region eg. 239 cfu/100ml and 718 cfu/100ml, especially at the Pussyfoot site on 180th Ave SE.

Watershed Implementation / Financial Assistance and Cost Sharing – What happened in 2020 (overview)? BMP's implemented? Cost Shares?

Roundtable

- o King County Conservation District

- Shorelines Team -> 2 Buffer projects, 1 hedgerow and 1 riparian forest replanting.
- Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) -> 5 Interested/Consultations, 1 implemented.
- Farm Services -> 1 Roof runoff, 2 Heavy use, 2 cover crops, 1 buffer fence, 1 Furret (?), 1 prescribed grazing.
 - Note: Feels as if there is a cultural resistance to implementation of conservation BMPs.

o City of Enumclaw

- Removed 1 OSS, 3 Enforcements, 1 pet waste disposal.

o County

- Farm cost share -> 1 outstanding contract for gutter and downspout project (dairy)
- Note: cost dollars are limited and if you want to do the cost share, you need capital to get reimbursed. \$ available to do exclusion fencing but most land owners are unaware/unwilling.
- K.C. Code 10 feet accumulation of manure within fish bearing stream typically initiates enforcement actions. Intermittent streams such as Pussyfoot require 25 feet setback with fencing.

O Washington State Department of Agriculture

- Over the last year, WSDA conducted 10 inspections - 6 were routine. 4 facilities closed last year.
- Sent 3 Warning letters/Outcome letters -> 1 lagoon issue, 1 Nutrient Record keeping, 1 pasture management.
- Quite a few dairies have a problem with applications proximate to waterways/ditches - by moving cows out into fields and by applying with big gun sprinklers.
- The challenges in this area are there is not enough consistent follow-up. *ECY - please let us know if there's something that we can follow-up with.*

o Ecology

- 47 total Outreach and/or TA letters, connected one property owner to the Conservation District and identified over 70 properties of concern.

o US Department of Agriculture

- Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) - Environmental Quality Incentives Program and EQUIP Manure leachate project and updated watering facility.

Presentation will be available on Puyallup Partnership webpage

- Note: There are challenges associated with the amount of time it takes for the planning process. USDA issues contracts not grants, so there are a lot of hoops. There is also the barrier of getting folks to fill out application.